



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

March 18, 2009

The Honorable Mary L. Landrieu  
Chairwoman  
Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship  
428A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

In this time of economic hardship for many small businesses, we are pleased to receive your letter calling for increased coordination and collaboration between small business programs in various Federal Departments and Agencies. We agree that more can be done to coordinate the many government programs helping America's small businesses, including those in the manufacturing industry. Moreover, we believe that it is critical that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) take leadership in coordinating these programs.

That is why one of our main priorities is to convene a Small Business Inter-Agency Task Force to encourage further collaboration between small business programs. This Task Force will invite senior representatives from SBA, the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Labor, Agriculture, Energy, Transportation, Treasury, Veterans Affairs, and other Federal Agencies and Departments that have programs dedicated to small business.

We are certain that departments and agencies across the Federal government are committed to preventing further job loss and rebuilding small businesses across America. During these challenging times, we have a unique opportunity to serve small businesses. SBA will work to ensure that there is a holistic and coordinated approach to restoring and renewing America's small businesses.

We will provide more details as we develop this initiative, and welcome any suggestions that you may have. Thank you for your continued leadership and support on behalf of small business in America. An identical letter has been sent to Senator Snowe.

Sincerely,

Darryl K. Hairston  
Acting Administrator